Sanctioning of New Moon days as holidays for schools.

45. *Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state when the New Moon days were sanctioned as holidays for schools in the State?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: There are no records to show when the New Moon days were declared as holidays for schools in the State.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: May I know from the member how long it is since those New Moon holidays were sanctioned?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: The oldest teachers in the schools say that they have had the holidays from the time they could remember.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Am I to take it that the New Moon holidays were being given during the last fifty years?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: Probably.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Even after the abolition of the New Moon holidays, are the schools utilising them as holidays and working on other days?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: Yes. When numerous teachers take casual leave the schools cannot work. So these days are given as holidays in those schools.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Is it not a fact that a number of New Moon days fall on recognised holidays?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: That depends upon the particular year.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: May I know from the member whether Government have any objection to restore the New Moon holidays if the requisite number of working days can be made otherwise?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: Government have no objection to explore the matter.

Minimum number of working days required in schools.

46. *Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the minimum number of working days required in departmental Vernacular and English Schools; and

(*b*) the minimum number of working days required in aided Vernacular and English Schools.

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan:

(*a*) and (*b*)	Vernacular Schools	...	170 days.
	English Schools	...	175 days.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Is it not a fact that the schools in Trivandrum enjoy a greater number of local holidays than other schools in the State?

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